

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 EB-08 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00

INRE-00 /086 W

-----003183 071834Z /44

O R 071800Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2440

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 5276

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: BUSINESSMEN'S CONVERSATION WITH
STEYN AND GELDENHUYS

REF: PRETORIA 5275

TWO BUSINESSMEN WHO ARE SEEKING CONTRACT TO SERVICE UN FORCES IN
NAMIBIA (REFTEL) TOLD EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT SOUTH
AFRICAN OFFICIALS TO WHOM THEY HAD TALKED HAD BEEN PESSIMISTIC
ABOUT CHANCES OF SAG ACCEPTANCE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S
PLAN. A-G STEYN HAD TOLD THEM THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT ACCEPT
THE PLAN AS IT WAS NOW WRITTEN. STEYN AS WELL AS GENERAL
GELDENHUYS, ACCORDING TO THE BUSINESSMEN, COMPLAINED MOST ABOUT
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THE FAILURE OF AHTISSARI OR THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO CONSULT
ON THE ISSUE OF THE SIZE OF THE UN FORCES. STEYN REPORTEDLY
SAID THAT THE SUBJECT HAD ONLY BEEN BRIEFLY TOUCHED UPON IN HIS
DISCUSSION WITH AHTISAARI AND THAT THE LATTER IN PASSING HAD
REFERRED TO THE FIGURE OF 5,000. GENERAL GELDENHUYS REPORTEDLY
TOLD THE BUSINESSMEN THAT IF THE UN FORCES WERE TO BE A
PEACEKEEPING OPERATION, THEN 7,500 WAS FAR TOO FEW, BUT IF

THEIR FUNCTION WAS TO MONITOR A CEASEFIRE, THEN 7,500 WAS
EXCESSIVE.
EDMONDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Litigation Codes:
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